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The regular meeting of the Town Assembly of the Village of Arden was convened at 7:40 PM on June 26, 1989, Chairman William Press presiding.

In attendance were:

Sally Hamburger
Rae F. Gerstine
Lew Aumach
Peggy Aumack
Lanier Colgan
Matt Stearns
Ted Conwell, NV
Bill Press
Pat Press
Jean K. Brachman
Frank Young
Eugene Shaw
Betty Knott
Shaul Gladstone
Hugh Roberts
Jannie Stearns
Brian Barbehenn, NV

Paul Thompson
Mary E. Irons
Bob Wynn, NV
Lee Starr
Susan Rohrbach
Ethel Monfort
Ruth Bean
Kate Threefoot
Lou Bean
Steven Threefoot
Pat Liberman
Cy Liberman
Aaron Hamburger
Connee Wright McKinney
Robin McKinney, NV
Joan W. Colgan

Tom Colgan
Ruth Panella
Frank Akutowicz
Maryellen Jobson
June Kleban
Leon Tanzer
John Demsey
Chris Demsey
Don Holcomb
Pete A. Renzetti
Mary Brent Whipple
Larry Walker
Bernie Brachman
Alan Burslem
Tim Colgan
Maria Burslem

COMMUNICATIONS

Letter from Radon Specialists offering to test your house for radon. See secretary for details.

Welcome to Al Benson, foster son of George and Minnie Newcomb. Al is visiting from California.

Ted Conwell from the Delaware Nature Education Society

There is a crises in Delaware. New home complexes and condos are raping the open space. The Land, Water Conservation Trust Fund of \$400,000 yields \$40,000 a year to work with. With this amount we can buy about 10 acres in New Castle County for preservation.

Senate Bill #110 would transfer one-fourth of the real estate transfer tax to the conservation fund for ten years. This would add ten million per year to the fund, leaving about seven million for the counties, cities and towns.

This bill is being supported by fifty-two organizations including all three counties, the City of Wilmington, civic groups, conservation groups and a majority of legislators in both houses. Nancy Cook will not let it out of the Finance Committee claiming they have higher priorities. The Governor claims to be in favor of open space but doesn't like this bill because it limits his control.

Matt Stearns presented an American flag and Delaware State flag to Town Assembly in honor of all servicemen. Matt will be custodian of the flags and make sure they are displayed at each meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Trustees - Shaul Gladstone

The auditor's report showing the financial condition of the Village as of March 25, 1989 has been submitted to us by Corran and Company, our accountants. Significant items in the report are as follows:

General Fund Balance	\$80,397
Municipal Street Aid Balance	3,583
Revenue Sharing Balance	1,583
Village Center Fund Balance	4,560
TOTAL	\$90,123

For reasons not yet determined, this is about \$7,000 higher than projections made in March of this year.

Other good news is that our annual insurance premium, which has been on an unrestrained rise for several years, has at last been reduced from \$6555 to \$3835; a saving of \$2720. In addition, there will be no County tax increase this year since County Council defeated County Executive Greenhouse's proposed 1% increase.

Finally, our bank balance as of March 31, 1989 was \$47,034.65, \$180,000 of which is invested in a C.D. at 9.4%. The remainder is our working capital and is in our insured money market fund at 7.35%.

A bad sewer leak was discovered in the woods behind Wesolowsski's house and was reported to the Civic Committee which will report on the resolution of the problem.

Assessors - Cy Liberman

You have the Assessor's report. I don't think it is necessary for me to read it to you; it is almost exactly the same as last year's report except for the figures. You will see that we are again using the formula developed a few years ago to define the "full rental value of the land." In applying that formula this year we arrived at a reduction in rental value. The reduction came about primarily because the quality of the trash collection service provided in the village was reduced, saving the village some money. We applied the saving equally to all leaseholds by reducing the "A" rate. The other rates are the same as last year's. The only other change we made is the factor for leaseholds along Sherwood Green. We restored that factor to where it was year before last. The overall reduction in land rents comes to \$76 for each leasehold.

Under the rules by which Arden operates, the determination of land rents by the elected Board of Assessors is final unless an alternative is presented at the September meeting of the Town Assembly and is approved by a two-thirds vote, in which case the proposals are submitted to a referendum.

Report received by Town Assembly.

dit - Mary Irons

See Trustees report. Complete audit on file.

Wilmington Village Center - Connee Wright McKinney

The committee has received official word from the Wilmington Assessment Board that they will be renewing their contract which will now extend until July, 1996. This extension is covered by an Amendment to the Cooperation Agreement of August 6, 1985. Please note that Arden did not have the option to terminate the agreement. Because there has been confusion about this, I would like to include item #2 from the Agreement:

"2. The Cooperation Agreement, as amended herein, will automatically be extended for a five year period July 1, 1991 to July 1, 1996, unless Wilmington Montessori Association elects to terminate the Agreement by giving written notice to the Village of Arden on or before July 1, 1989 as provided by Section 14 (h) of the Cooperation Agreement."

On or before July 1, 1994, the Village of Arden will have the right to end the agreement; this will be two years before the 1996 contract ends. If the village does not choose to end the agreement at that time, WMA will be able to extend the contract for five years or until July 1, 2001.

Please understand that the money we now receive from WMA is for maintenance use only; we do not have any funds available for future town use. In fact, our agreement reads that from July 1, 1994 to July 1, 1996, any money that our committee has will be refunded to WMA unless it is used for normal maintenance. In short, we are not able to underwrite any future town use - that money must come from somewhere else.

The air conditioner has been installed in room 4. Arden committees are free to use it for their meetings and we are asking for a donation of \$1.00 per hour for use by other groups. After your meeting or activity, please tell Ruth Bean approximately how long the air conditioner was on so that we can keep tabs on its use.

The BWVC has been used for 13 committee meetings and 9 scheduled events since the last town meeting in March.

The ACRA program began today at the BWVC and the morning program will be running until Friday, July 30; also, in August, there are several ACRA events scheduled there for the evenings and weekends and the first week in August, it will be used for the ACRA children's play rehearsals.

The new committee met and elected the following officers:

Ruth Bean - scheduling (or keeper of the keys) and programming
John Demsey and Bill Theis - maintenance

Sue Rohrbach - secretary

Connee McKinney - chairperson

Civic - Eugene Shaw

Bids have been requested for road work but are not in yet. Work will include resurfacing of the intersection of Millers, Cherry and The Sweep.

Repaving of Pond Rd. from the firelane to just short of the Meadow Lane intersection. The possible widening of Pond Rd. alongside of the Club parking lot. Repaving Sherwood from Marsh to a point 10 ft. past the first manhole.

We will stockpile quarry waste material at the end of the overflow parking area on Sherwood Green to be used as soon as possible where cars have dug deep ruts inside the curbs.

There was a very bad sewer back-up near the old swimming pool. The County responded very quickly to a phone call and opened up the line.

Arrow has given an estimate for garbage collection for the 1990/91 season. The estimate is an increase of about 35¢ a month per domicile or an increase of \$960 per year. Dumping fees are going up about 14%.

Discussion:

Widening Pond Lane:

If you need to remove trees for the widening, where will you plant new ones? No definite decision as yet.

Please don't widen Pond Lane; there are many children on Pond and Meadow Lanes and traffic is too fast now.
Speed humps:

Plans are being made for 2 speed humps on Sherwood Rd., one in front of Shaws, one near the School Green. Some residents requested humps around the Arden Green to discourage speeding.

Aren't speed bumps more effective? That issue has already been resolved by Town Assembly in favor of humps. The committee has a copy of the State guidelines for speed humps.
Roads:

Civic Committee was urged to inspect the washouts from heavy rains on the sides of the roads; they need to be filled to prevent road erosion. That is the purpose of the stockpile of quarry waste.

The water run-off problem is a long term paving situation requiring a 3-5 year plan for digging up the roads that are higher than the curbs and replacing them.

The new driveway at the intersection of Millers and The Sweep extends 6 inches into the road. A letter has already been sent to the resident informing him that when that intersection is resurfaced this summer we will have to remove the end of the drive. One resident felt we should not discourage nice driveways like this one.

Trash Collection:

Civic Committee was commended for a fine job on the transition from behind-the-house to curbside pick-up.

Some residents are putting out garbage in plastic bags instead of cans. The bags get broken and garbage strewn about. People are not bringing in cans in a timely fashion. Gene will put a warning notice in the Arden Page.

How can we encourage the recycling of newspapers? Can we put a recycling clause in next year's contract?

The committee should get competitive bids for next year's garbage contract.

Arden Green:

Please restore the outdoor theater to good condition. Many seats are missing.

Out of towners are using the greens on a regular basis for baseball games on Tuesdays and Thursdays; intermittently for Frisbee games. The players are noisy, use bad language, drink and speed. Isn't this in violation of ordinance #4 which clearly states they must have a permit for regular use? We need to post the rules for use of the green and the procedure for obtaining a permit. Can we legally prevent people from using the green which is public parkland? Let's not take all summer to solve this problem.

Community Planning - Ruth Bean

The committee met with the Trustees to clarify our role in relation to variance requests and zoning issues. We have been asked to assist in poling immediate neighbors of applicants. Rationale being that the Trustees are frequently given very short notice of requests to consider. We will continue to discuss and evaluate the whole matter of zoning and variance guidelines with the Trustees in order to present possible procedural changes to the town for consideration at a future date.

On April 22 there was a most successful woods clean-up. Cecilia Vore organized the Arden Woods side and Gail Rinehart the Sherwood. Fifty people ages 2-70+ were involved. The condition of both sides was quite good, although there is an ongoing

problem of "junk" floating down the creek into Arden during heavy rains. Thanks to Cookie Kelly and her mother the workers were served delicious refreshments after the clean-up, at which time Sally Thurston presented Bob Wynn with a special "Bob Wynn Interceptor Award" for all his efforts in monitoring the creek and his success in removing the overflow pipe.

Community Planning has been concerned about some safety problems in the town. The Safety Committee responded by posting a "Children At Play" sign on Meadow Lane. We approached the president of the Arden Club about the erosion on the path along the pool which is full of holes and roots. A representative from Community and Safety will make recommendations to the Civic Committee in the near future as to safety measures to control the speed of traffic around the BWVC and Gild Hall.

On May 13th there was a clean-up of the Memorial Garden, thanks to the many phone calls and good planning by Ethel Monfort we had over 30 people in attendance. Prior to that day, a replacement to the Dove Tree was planted. Many people in town contributed money so that Ken Nichols could bid on it at a special auction. His efforts and those of the contributors are much appreciated.

The committee was informed that we were denied our request for a public hearing re: Beaux Tree Development's connection to the Naaman's Sewer Interceptor. After reading Mr. Janiga's material and hearing a report by Cy Liberman, it was decided at Advisory Committee to let this drop and focus on the total issue of the interceptor and plans for changes. There will be a public meeting on July 26 at Concord High School, 7:30 PM. We urge as many to attend as are able. We have collected questions for the Commission and urge anyone who has questions and cannot attend to give them to Cy or Lew Aumack.

The committee was charged to nominate two people to the Brandywine Council of Civic Associations. Lewis Aumack has agreed to serve for two years, Leon Tanzer for one.

We suggest that from now on the town maintain two active members on this council, each serving for two years (after this year) so that each year a person is appointed and there is continuity of representation. Persons would be able to serve consecutive terms: The representatives will act in response to the concerns of the Town and the Community Planning Committee, being ready to report on issues raised at the council and how they voted. Criteria for nomination for these positions would be: interest and attendance at Town meetings. All people in member communities may attend meetings but only officially designated representatives may vote and attend board meetings. We wish to thank Pat and Cy Liberman, the Aumacks and others for alerting us to issues we needed to address and for attending meetings in the past year.

Community Planning would like to see some of the woods paths reclaimed. The Civic Committee Chair suggested that if one could get a group interested in such a project, they would approve it.

We have begun collecting suggestions for correcting or changing the Ardeb Book and welcome more.

Leon Tanzer presented a series of recommendations for our committee to consider...most will require much further discussion. One was simple and we would like to present it to the town to consider.

"When we elect town committees, the first alternate should attend committee meetings, without voting rights."

rationale being: too many good people lose; it provides more people-power and thus more ideas are germinated; the first alternate would be informed so that they would find it easier to step into the position should a committee member leave.

At this time we know of no new developments re: the Hatzis property, however a petition drafted by Ruth Pinella has been passed around tonight to be presented to the Council at the next meeting on this issue.

Bob Wynn report on the Naamans Interceptor

The County has hired engineering consultants and a Public Relations firm from Baltimore. They are encouraging citizen complaints in order to justify a 5 million dollar expenditure.

The County has rotorooted the interceptor, gotten huge roots out of the sewer and grouted holes in the line. It was a good job. Bob walked the line during the last heavy rain and found no overflowing manholes except one in Lancashire.

The County is putting a 9-10" bypass line with big pumps in. This seems a useless and expensive move - it will double the sewer capacity and make possible more growth in the area. We are being maneuvered into a position of supporting growth. We should resist this on a conservation basis.

The next meeting of the Citizens Advisory Committee on June 7 will examine a proposal to spend \$400,000 to study a possible 5 million dollar project.

Representation on the Brandywine Council of Civic Organizations

Moved that the Chairman of Town Assembly appoint 2 Arden representatives to the council on an ongoing basis.

Discussion:

The two year term of office is specified in the Council by-laws, but representatives can be reappointed.

Community Planning Committee should submit names of interested people to the Chairman. Names may be submitted by anyone, but authority to appoint should rest with the Chairman.

A substitute should also be named in case neither representative can attend a meeting.

Motion Passed

Playground - Larry Walker

When the committee was convened, Larry Walker was selected as chairman and Mary Vernon will be the "administrator" handling the joint duties of secretary and treasurer.

During the past quarter, the required playground equipment inspections were made. All of the equipment is in good repair.

A second infant swing seat was installed on the Sherwood Green. A total of six cubic yards of root mulch was spread on both greens to absorb the shock of falls by children using the equipment.

The Pioneer Fence Company has been instructed to replace the worn center section of the baseball backstop on the Sherwood Green. They will replace the thin gauge cyclone fencing with a much thicker gauge material. Repainting of the equipment is continuing.

Registration - Jean Brachman for Lanier Colgan

There are 407 voters eligible to vote at tonight's meeting.

Results of the March Election:

AUDIT: Marianne Cinaglia, Mary Irons, Leon Tanzer
BUDGET: Kate Threefoot, Pete Renzetti, John Page
BUZZ WARE VILLAGE CENTER: Connee McKinney, Ruth Bean, Sue Rohrbach
CIVIC: Carl Falco, Dane Miller
COMMUNITY PLANNING: Gail Rinehart, Ruth Bean, Ethel Monfort
LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE: Mary Brent Whipple
PLAYGROUND: Lou Bean, Mary Vernon, Ted Heymann
SAFETY: Tim Colgan, John Grimaldi, Elizabeth Varley Walker
REGISTRATION: Lanier Colgan, Jean Brachman, Pat Press

Bea Jaffe and John Dossett tied for fourth place on this committee. The committee is divided as to what we should do about this. We could have a run-off election to night or we could have one person serve as a regular voting member and one as an honorary member, in which case, since neither member is here, the decision would be postponed until I speak to both of them. I would like the sense of the meeting.

Moved that both people involved in the tie should serve, each having a one-half vote.

Motion Passed

Safety - Tom Colgan

A "Watch Children" sign has been installed on Meadow Lane, another has been ordered for Pond Lane.

It is difficult to handle the misuse of the Green problem. When a group is approached, there is never anyone "in charge". Make sure there is a name of someone to take responsibility on any permit.

Legislative Reference - Mary Brent Whipple

The committee met and elected Mary Brent Whipple chairperson. We plan to meet with Bill Press in order to review some parts of ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER so we can learn which rules most often come up for discussion. We need to be familiar with the by-laws, 3 court cases, and we are looking at less cumbersome ways to order the governing documents.

OLD BUSINESS

Arden Archives - Sally Hamburger

The committee: Sally Hamburger, Chairman, Jean Brachman, Joan Colgan, Pat Liberman and Ethel Monfort, recommends that this be made a standing committee by vote of the September meeting. With your approval, this item will be placed on the agenda for that meeting. If the sense of this meeting is positive, we will approach the Budget Committee with a request to be included in their planning.

Our current, pressing need is for storage and work space. To that end, we are working with the BWVC Committee on the possibility of space in that building. We also need storage equipment: file cabinets, work table, folders etc.

Our plan is for the current committee to continue to serve until March, 1990 when we would enter the regular election system. The chairman was appointed by Bill Press, other members volunteered at Town Assembly.

The committee is enjoying exploring and cataloguing materials from Virginia Shaw. We hope to share some of our findings with you from time to time. In that spirit, I would like to tell you

about the "Old Mens Club" that was in existence in Arden during 1947/48.

Arden Archives Committee

- A. The Arden Archives Committee shall consist of five residents of Arden, elected by a majority of those voting at the regular March meeting. The term shall be two years, three members to be elected on odd numbered years and two on even numbered years.
- B. It shall be the duty of the Arden Archives Committee to preserve and perpetuate the history of Arden as an intentional community. The committee shall:
1. Collect, catalogue and preserve Arden documents, photos, and memorabilia.
 2. Present displays and programs about Arden's past, its people and its arts.
 3. Work towards creating and funding a permanent museum.

Discussion:

Town Assembly approved the plan to put the formation of this committee on the September agenda.

The committee was urged to consider making this an appointed rather than an elected committee. All committee members must be interested and well equipped to serve - it will be hard to come up with a double slate for these positions. The committee wants to be sure this does not become a closed group, that no one interested in serving is shut out.

NEW BUSINESS

Moved that Arden express its support for Senate Bill #110 and so inform the legislators and the Delaware Nature Education Society.

Motion Passed Unanimously

GOOD AND WELFARE

Mike Curtis will be leading the Henry George School of Economics on a walking tour of Arden on Saturday, August 5. There will be a program in the Field Theater in the afternoon. The Program will not interfere with the ACRA play that evening.

Peg Aumack made an appeal for support for Housing Now - an organization dedicated to tackling the problem of the shortage of affordable housing. A rally is planned in Washington, DC on October 7.

The Chairman needs to appoint an Arden Records Officer. Please volunteer if interested.

Meeting Adjourned - 9:55 PM

Judy Hamburger
Secretary